

# HARRY B. LEWIS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, RESIGNS POST

Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce during the past 18 months, has resigned and it is reported that he is considering accepting one of several positions of similar nature which have been offered to him.

The resignation was submitted to the directors of the chamber on May 16, to take effect immediately, but the directors refused to accept it. In the week following, however, Lewis pressed the issue to the point where it was accepted, as of June 9.

In announcing the resignation, Reed H. Parkin, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and secretary of Doak Aircraft Co., said:

"It is with deep regret that the Board of Directors of Torrance Chamber of Commerce announces the resignation of Harry B. Lewis as executive secretary of the chamber. Mr. Lewis' unflinching efforts on behalf of the chamber during the most critical days cannot be expressed merely in words of appreciation. But it is the wish of the Board of Directors to publicly express their gratitude for his work and the performance of his duties. Much of the present success of the chamber can be attributed to Mr. Lewis.

"Many Torrance businessmen will recall the rapid development of the Chamber during the presidency of James Lynch, who with Mr. Lewis did a pioneer work that has finally established the Chamber on its feet."

He said the name of the new secretary would be announced soon.

Philip Van Dyke, treasurer of the Chamber and secretary of Longren Aircraft Co., declared that Torrance was losing the most highly qualified chamber of commerce secretary that he had known in all his experience. "We have tried every means to prevail upon him to remain on the job in Torrance, but we have failed. It is a great loss not only to the Chamber of Commerce but to Torrance."

Mayor W. H. Tolson expressed similar regret as did other city officials and businessmen. Lewis came to Torrance from the position of aviation secretary of Lubbock, Texas, Chamber of Commerce.

He was a captain in the Army Air Forces in World War I and prior to that was in the Royal Air Force.

He was operations manager in Central America for Pan-American Airways prior to entering chamber of commerce work, and prior to that time had been one of the early Pan-American pilots.

He is president of the Lions Club of Torrance, which he assisted in organizing, and as chairman of the Red Cross fund drive for 1945, he managed committees which secured 50 per cent more money for the Red Cross than was requested of Torrance. As chairman of the annual March of Dimes, at the request of Postmaster C. Earl Conner, he secured nearly \$3300 in donations, five times more than any single year's collections previous to this year.

Also he is vice chairman, Harbor District Boy Scouts; chairman, Veterans' Service Council; vice-chairman, all war loan drives and coordinator of the post-war planning council for Torrance.

## Blood Bank Has Big Day Here; Back June 29

Friday, June 29, will be the next Blood Bank Day for Torrance. The mobile unit will be here on that day from 8:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.

The 165 pints of whole or "O" type blood taken here Friday represented one of the special group's largest days. It is reported by Mrs. O. A. Kresse, blood bank chairman.

Of interest to those who contributed is the information that station wagons were on hand to pick up each hour's donations to be rushed to Los Angeles for re-checking, Mrs. Kresse said.

As a result, at the end of the day all the blood was ready to be flown to San Francisco where planes from all important west coast cities converged. In less than 20 hours, the whole blood had reached its destination—ready for use at the emergency front.

Although almost 600 were ready and willing to give blood, only 40 per cent, on an average, were accepted. Only 40 per cent of all donors are typed as having "O" type blood.

VISIT ENDS

Mrs. Irma Trezise returned Thursday from a visit at Glendora at the home of her sister-in-law.

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## EMERGENCY MEETING WITH NAVY, SANTA FE CALLED TO SETTLE SPUR TRACK DISPUTE

BULLETIN

War urgency was responsible last night for decision on the part of the City Council to grant permission to the Santa Fe Railroad to construct spur tracks to serve the new U. S. Navy Material Redistribution Center from the main line at Arlington Ave. Time, in the interest of prosecution of the war, will not permit waiting for construction of the tracks from Madrona Ave. as suggested, it was revealed at a special conference between the council, the Navy Department, Santa Fe Railroad and representatives of Madrid Ave. area property owners.

Faced with the imminent possibility that the Navy department will file a "declaration of taking" to seize for its use land and rights-of-way for a spur track from the Santa Fe main line through Torrance to serve the 91-acre material redistribution center which is being rushed to completion due to the shift

### \$10 Suggested As Proper Price For School Land Here

The Torrance Recreation Commission asked the City Council Tuesday night to buy from the Los Angeles schools a tract of land about one square block in size at Fern ave. and El Dorado st., for \$6000, for park and recreation purposes.

When the discussion of leasing the property came up some weeks ago, it was suggested that the city had paid for the land several times over in excessive school taxes over and above what Los Angeles spends in Torrance, and the suggestion again was made following the council meeting that in view of this fact, the price should be merely enough to make it a legal transaction, \$10.

### Retail Bond Salesmen Vie For Voyage

The first 600 retail employees in Southern California certified as selling \$5000 in E, F, or G bonds will be eligible to sail on the U. S. M. S. T. S. American Seafarer on one of the six all day cruises beyond Catalina and back again.

That announcement was made today by Bernard Lee, retail chairman of the local war finance committee. He said that this unusual feature has been made possible for employees in recognition of the outstanding sales efforts of retailers throughout Southern California in the interests of the Seventh War Loan Drive.

Owners and managers of retail stores in Torrance have pledged themselves to meet their quota of \$500 multiplied by the number of employees in the store.

The initial cruise, scheduled for May 28, will take aboard 100 employees and the Seafarer will leave from Long Beach on each successive Monday through July 9. She will cruise beyond Catalina and bring her passengers ashore at the end of the day.

The vessel, formerly the luxury liner Alleghany, has been a training ship for apprentice seamen at the Maritime Service Training base at Catalina for the past two years. She is skippered by Commander William E. Porter, USMS, who will play host, in cooperation with the Treasury Department, to the employees who qualify.

In addition to the cruise, store employees who sell a minimum of \$5000 in bonds, will be accorded the rank of three-star generals in the local retailers bond army, Lee announced.

"All employees will rise in rank as they sell bonds," he added.

The local retail chairman said, in his opinion, the cruise was an excellent idea, as it would give the employees a chance to observe the training ship in action, and thereby, "see your war bond dollars in action."

Owners and managers of stores are asked to submit the name of an employee to the local retail headquarters as soon as he or she has reached the \$5000 quota. Headquarters address is 1319 Sartori; phone number is 1016-W. A reservation will then be made for the employee aboard the U. S. M. S. T. S. American Seafarer.

WEEK-END TRIP  
Dr. K. F. Sliemann enjoyed a week-end trip to Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo and Rio Grande.



HARRY B. LEWIS Resigns Chamber Post

## Council Post Subject of Much Inquiry

As Councilman C. M. Gilbert's military leave of absence has taken effect, as of May 16, the topic of who is to take his seat until he returns or until the next general election is foremost in the conversations when men gather on street corners or informal conferences, and when women assemble around the bridge tables.

While there is some prospect that Gilbert, who is 32 years of age, may be deferred again under the new orders stopping the drafting of men more than 30 years of age, he said Tuesday night that he already was sworn into service, and that he is to begin his training on June 1.

Former Mayor Tom McGuire did not admit nor deny that he would accept appointment, when the subject was discussed at the City Hall a few days ago.

On the other hand, two of Walteria district's leading citizens, George P. Thatcher and B. J. Michels, both admit interest in the councilmanic appointment.

Most interesting, and this one coming from the women of the community, is the suggestion that Mrs. Evelyn Carr, chairman of the active Torrance Parents Association which seeks to bring about the withdrawal of Torrance schools from the Los Angeles city system, should be given the appointment in recognition of her work and civic interest.

However, questioned by the Torrance Herald, Mrs. Carr was quick to halt any such thought. "I have only one campaign in mind, and that is to give our children the finest schools in the state of California," she said.

"After a quarter of a century under Los Angeles' control, it is obvious that we can have the high type schools to which our young people are entitled only by taking them from Los Angeles. I shall devote all the time I can spare from my own home and my own children to this effort until we have won control of our Torrance schools and can spend here in Torrance the hundreds of thousands of dollars of our money Los Angeles is wasting elsewhere. The confidence expressed by the suggestion is appreciated, however, but I intend to stay with the school campaign exclusively."

Meanwhile, the City Council indicates that it is not necessarily anxious to fill the post left by Gilbert's call to the colors.

Possibly the reason for this attitude is that they are split, two to two, Mayor W. H. Tolson and Councilman J. E. Hitchcock against Councilmen N. H. Cucci and G. V. Powell.

Still a subject of discussion, however, is whether the section of the Military and Veterans code under which Gilbert was granted a military leave of absence is applicable to a legislative office such as that of city council. Some say that it would apply only to elective administrative officers and appointive employees.

No action is contemplated until after the beginning of the new fiscal year, it was said.

## Torrance Will Honor Departed Heroes At Exercises on Sunday

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

### Memorial Day Program

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 1945

#### PARADE

Capt. Robert L. Lewellen, CSG., Parade Marshal  
Parade Assembly, 1 p.m. Cabrillo Ave. and Plaza del Amo  
LINE OF MARCH—Cabrillo Ave. from Plaza del Amo to Sartori Ave., to El Prado, and southwest to El Prado Park at Cravens Ave.

#### PARADE FORMATION

1. Torrance City Council and Public Officials.
2. Gold Star Mothers, escorted by Torrance Red Cross.
3. Color Guard and Matted Colors.
4. American Legion Posts and Auxiliaries, Gardena and Torrance.
5. Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts and Auxiliaries, Gardena and Torrance.
6. Navy Mothers.
7. California State Guard Band.
8. California State Guard composite company from 2nd Battalion, 39th Regiment.
9. Loyal Order of Moose.
10. Gardena Minute Men.
11. Boy and Girl Scout Units.
12. Cub Scouts.

#### PROGRAM AT EL PRADO PARK

(Following Parade)

Pledge to the Flag.....Neil Silence, Boy Scout Troop 241.  
"America".....State Guard Band  
Invocation.....Father McGuinness  
Introduction of Mayor and City Council.....C. Earl Conner  
Dedication of Memorial Plot.....Mayor and City Council  
Presentation of Memorial Plaque.....Harry B. Lewis, President, Lions Club  
Memorial Day Address.....Capt. T. R. Applebury, Chaplain, Army Hospital, Torrance  
Closing Prayer.....Rev. Paul M. Wheeler  
Roll Call of Departed Comrades.....James G. Caldwell  
Salute.....CSG Firing Squad  
Taps.....CSG Bugler  
"Star-Spangled Banner".....CSG Band

Sponsored by Torrance Post No. 3251, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, American Legion  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.....AMERICAN LEGION  
C. Earl Conner, Commander, Lester C. Fix, Commander, Chairman, Jack Hallanger  
L. E. Stanley, L. V. Babcock  
Edward Robinson, L. V. Babcock  
Richard Honan, James Brodie  
Geo. T. Spaulding, D. A. Murphy

## TORRANCE BENEFITS NIL AS 30 CENT INCREASE IN L.A. SCHOOL TAX RATE PROPOSED

If the City Council of the City of Torrance proposed a 30 cent increase in the tax rate, the people of the city would lead a roar of protest which would be heard for miles around. Yet, the Los Angeles city schools are proposing such an increase in taxes next year, and Torrance is going to have to pay it.

The budget of V. Kersey, superintendent of Los Angeles schools, calls for expenditure of \$53,133,214 next year, an increase of \$8,754,000 over that of the present year.

The tax rate would be about \$2.01 per \$100 assessed valuation, based on this year's values. The basic city tax rate of Torrance this year is \$1.14, by comparison, and the Los Angeles board of education takes from or on behalf of the city of Torrance more than twice as much money as it costs to run the whole city of Torrance, and twice as much as Los Angeles spends to run the schools of Torrance.

Next year, it will be even more, nearly \$100,000 more will be Torrance pay to Los Angeles over and above that being paid this year, estimated to amount to nearly \$800,000 including state aid to schools on behalf of the Torrance average daily attendance. Spent to operate the Torrance schools by Los Angeles is a figure slightly more than \$300,000.

Teachers of Torrance would get about \$15,000 of the proposed increase in the Los Angeles budget, in raises of \$20 a month, but other than that amount none of the additional money in the budget would aid Torrance, it is indicated by a quick survey of the budget.

Collects 2 for 1  
Los Angeles will continue to neglect Torrance schools, even though they collect almost twice as much as is spent here. Greatest single increase in the tentative budget requirements—the largest in the city schools' history—is the \$3,020,628 total of \$20 monthly salary increase for each employee, recommended on a wartime basis.

The Affiliated Teachers Organization of Los Angeles objected to this increase and pro-

"They Gave Their Last Full Measure of Devotion . . . In the Cause of Freedom."

Torrance will pay full honor to her departed sons, brothers, husbands and fathers who have made the supreme sacrifice that Liberty might live in Memorial exercises in churches and

in El Prado park, at Cravens ave., at 2 p.m., on Sunday, May 27.

### Few Extra Copies Of Memorial Day Section Available

A limited number of extra copies are available of Section B of this edition of the Torrance Herald, which contains the Torrance Honor Roll and a salute to the departed veterans of World War II in the form of pictures and data regarding their services. These additional copies may be obtained at the office of The Herald, 1336 El Prado, at 5 cents each.

In this Memorial Day section, every effort was made by the staff of the Torrance Herald, augmented by special workers and assisted by Selective Service Board No. 280, Miss Irene Mills, and the American Red Cross, Torrance branch, to secure the names of every Torrance man and woman in service. Likewise, The Herald attempted to obtain the pictures of all Torrance men who have given their lives in the cause of Freedom in World War II.

If there are omissions, The Herald will appreciate being so advised, so that proper acknowledgment may be made in early issues, and the list corrected in future publications of the Honor Roll.

Pictures of all those who have died in service are desired by The Torrance Herald. If families or friends of deceased veterans whose pictures are not included in this issue, will provide the photographs The Herald will have enlargings made at its own expense and publish the pictures. The process of making a cut from a photograph in no way harms the picture, which is returned within a few days to the party furnishing it.

The Memorial program is being held on Sunday instead of Wednesday because Torrance, like the nation, is "at war," and the plants in which most of the participants in the ceremony and parade are working will operate on Wednesday, Memorial Day.

## Poppy Sales Scheduled by Aux. Women

Tomorrow and Saturday, Americans all through the nation will pay tribute to their countrymen who have sacrificed in two great World Wars by wearing a red poppy.

In this city, as in every other city and town all over the country, the women of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliaries will be on the streets with baskets full of poppies for sale. This large corps of volunteer workers, organized by Velora Murphy, American Legion poppy chairman, and C. Earl Conner, V.F.W. poppy chairman, will see to it that everybody in the city has an opportunity to buy a poppy.

Disabled war veterans—young ones from this war, older ones from the last—made these poppies. These men who have been working in the hospital during the winter and spring to have the little flowers all ready for Poppy Day have benefited not only financially but mentally as well. To be able to earn money, to have a pleasant occupation has done a great deal to maintain their interest in life.

The memorial flowers have small intrinsic value, but the buyer can give for one whatever he feels he can for this symbol of the sacrifice made by some of his countrymen. All the money contributed goes into the Legion and Auxiliary rehabilitation and welfare fund and forms a large part of these funds which do so much to help the disabled veterans, their children and the children of the dead and disabled, of both wars.

Last year the Auxiliary distributed more than 19,000,000 poppies and as another year of war drags along, as more soldiers are killed or disabled, as more families feel the personal tragedy of war, it is expected that the public's wish to wear the badge of honor and tribute will be greater than ever. The local Auxiliary unit will make a poppy available to every citizen tomorrow.

POLICE VACANCIES  
There are 125 vacancies on the Los Angeles police force.

The exercises will follow a street parade in which Gold Star Mothers will ride accompanied by the representatives of the Torrance branch, American Red Cross, and in which various patriotic organizations will participate.

The line of march for the parade which will form at 1 p.m. will be on Cabrillo ave. from Plaza del Amo to Sartori ave., northwest to El Prado, and southwest to Cravens.

Featuring the services in El Prado park will be the dedication by the City of Torrance of a plot of ground to the memory of the men who have given their lives in this and past wars.

Later, it is proposed that a structure be erected in their memory.

A complete program of the services and parade on Sunday is printed elsewhere on this page, and on the pages of Section B will be found the names of Torrance men and women in service, together with pictures and data of all men who have died in Service in World War II.

The Torrance Honor Roll totals 1231, including 50 who have given their lives in the Cause of Freedom. Gold star members are indicated in the Honor Roll with a star in front of their names.

We regret that the names of J. A. Barrington, Jean Hudson, Joseph Junior and Marvin Kent were omitted from the honor roll, through the maze of work necessary to compile this roll.

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## E. F. Striecker Meets Death in Negro Area

Pfc. Eugene F. Striecker of 1106 El Prado was killed in action at Negroes on April 10, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Striecker, have been informed.

One of five Striecker boys in the service, the young soldier, a paratrooper, was first reported as missing and later the telegram came through informing the family that he had made the supreme sacrifice for his country.

He had been in the service for 27 months, and had been stationed at Fort Ord before going overseas. He attended Highland Park and Huntington Park high schools.

Roy Striecker is employed at the Torrance Alcoa plant as a foreman.

Other brothers in the service are Wallace, with the A. A. F. in England, Glenn, Ben and Donald, in the Navy.

## More Help Needed To Issue Sugar Canning Rations

While issuance of canning sugar has been put off for several weeks, applications are coming in by the scores, and the Torrance War Price and Rationing Board needs additional volunteer help to handle them, according to Frank W. Daniels, chief clerk.

"We will only be able to process the sugar applications as we have the necessary time and help," Daniels said.

He appealed for volunteer workers to see him, even if they can spare only a few hours a week.